GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4300
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2008
CONSTITUTION OF CENTRAL EMPOWERED COMMITTEE
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court has constituted a Central Empowered Committee (CEC) to review the decision and clearance given to the projects by the Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of members of the CEC;

(c) whether the CEC is empowered to give its opinion on all cases that come before the apex court;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of cases relating to wildlife conservation and forestry heard by the CEC and disposed of?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

(a) to (b) No Sir. However, the Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its order dated 27.04.2007 has directed the Ministry that all clearances by the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) of fresh cases shall be subject to approval by this Court and before giving approval, the court would like to have responses from the Central Empowered Committee (CEC) in respect of each clearance. The composition of the Central Empowered Committee is as under:

i. Shri PV Jayakrishnana - Chairman

ii. Shri PK Mohanty, DGF&SS - Member

iii. Shri Mahendra Vyas - Member

iv. Shri SK Patnaik - Member

v. Shri I Muthu - Member

vi. Shri MK Jiwarajka - Member Secretary

vii. Shri SK Chadha - Deputy Secretary

(c) to (e) As per the Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 14.12.2007, the Central Empowered Committee has been constituted by the Court for the purpose of monitoring and ensuring compliance of the orders of the Court covering the subject matter of forest and wild life and related issues and to examine pending Interlocutory Applications in the Writ petitions (as may be referred to it by the Court) as well as the reports and affidavits filed by the States in response to the orders passed by the Hon`ble Court and place its recommendations before the Court for orders.